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17. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 16, wherein the pharmaceutical carrier consists essentially of saline.

19 17 16

18. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 16, wherein the pharmaceutical carrier consists essentially of Ringer's solution.

20 17 16

19. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 16, wherein the pharmaceutical carrier consists essentially of dextrose solution.

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20. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 16, wherein the pharmaceutical carrier consists essentially of a solution suitable to be administered by direct intraarterial administration upstream from an occluded artery to optimize concentration and activity of HGF in the local circulation of an affected limb.

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21. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 16, wherein the pharmaceutical carrier consists essentially of a solution that forms an isotonic composition with the HGF.

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22. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 16, wherein the pharmaceutical carrier consists essentially of a solution that forms a composition having a pH of about 5 to about 8 with the HGF.

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23. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 16, wherein the pharmaceutical carrier consists essentially of a solution that forms a composition having a pH of about 7 to about 7.5 with the HGF.

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24. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising:

hepatocyte growth factor (HGF), and

a pharmaceutical carrier acceptable for injection that is intravenous, intraarterial, intraperitoneal, subcutaneous, muscular or other infusion such that delivery to the bloodstream in

an effective form is ensured, said carrier comprising one member selected from the group consisting of: (1) bovine serum albumin, (2) polyoxyethylenesorbitan monolaurate, (3) thimersol, and (4) phosphate buffered saline.

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~~25~~. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to Claim ~~24~~, said carrier comprising two members selected from the group consisting of: (1) bovine serum albumin, (2) polyoxyethylenesorbitan monolaurate, (3) thimersol, and (4) phosphate buffered saline.

27. 25
~~26~~. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to Claim ~~24~~, said carrier comprising three members selected from the group consisting of: (1) bovine serum albumin, (2) polyoxyethylenesorbitan monolaurate, (3) thimersol, and (4) phosphate buffered saline.

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~~27~~. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to Claim ~~24~~, said carrier comprising: (1) bovine serum albumin, (2) polyoxyethylenesorbitan monolaurate, (3) thimersol, and (4) phosphate buffered saline.

REMARKS

Support for Claims 16-23 is found in the Specification at page 8, line 28 to page 9, line 19. Support for Claims 24-27 is found at page 11, lines 14-18. No new matter is incorporated by this Amendment.

Applicants note that with respect to Rosen et al., Grant et al., and Bussolino et al., all cited in the previous Office Action, that each of these reference do not teach any form systemic delivery that would allow for injection that is intravenous, intraarterial, intraperitoneal, subcutaneous, muscular or other infusion such that delivery to the bloodstream is in an effective form. All these references teach HGF incorporated in a matrigel or polyvinyl plug for sustained local release of small amounts of HGF.